

On Top Of The News

Email: news@arubatoday.com

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Saturday, October 31, 2009

Aruba changes government after recent election

Eman Cabinet sworn in by Aruba Governor Refunjol

By Tito Lacle

Aruba Today Special

ORANJESTAD - In the presence of their partners, members of the first Mike Eman Cabinet were sworn in by Aruba's Governor Freddis Refunjol, which took place in the historical Fort Zoutman building Friday afternoon. Two days earlier the Governor received the final Eman report on numerous deliberations Eman -then formator- held with community leaders.

Approval to retire the ministers of Cabinet Oduber were received by the Governor Friday morning, which also meant that he had green light for the new cabinet ministers to be sworn in. That process took place later that same Friday afternoon, where the Governor signed the accustomed decrees. This was done in the presence of acting Prime Minister Marisol Lopez Tromp (Nelson Oduber



is vacationing abroad), and future Prime Minister Mike Eman.

The swearing in ceremony of the new Cabinet marks the end

of the Government formation process which started October 2nd, where Mike Eman was asked to put together a Cabinet with a broad majority

in Parliament: Something he succeeded with no problem. All candidates passed their security screening with flying colors and therefore entitles them to hold the positions for which they were sworn in. Ministers sworn in were

Michael Godfried Eman, Arthur Lawrence Dowers, Mike Eric de Meza, Otmar Enrique Oduber, Oslin Benito Sevinger, Richard Wayne Milton Visser, Michelle Janice Hooyboer-Winklaar and Edwin Bibiano Abath. □

During a cocktail and dinner reception at Windows on Aruba

De Palm Tours and Divi Resorts host SITE directors



EAGLE BEACH - On Thursday evening, an elegant affair for the directors of SITE was held at Divi Resort's flagship restaurant,

Windows on Aruba. The event was co-hosted by the island's premier destination management company, De Palm Tours, and Divi Resorts.

Both organizations were thrilled with the opportunity to entertain this important delegation during their annual International Conference 2009.

"Aruba's relationship with SITE started 32 years ago," said Lisette Malmberg of De Palm Corporation, "when SITE held a board meeting outside the USA for the first time, and chose Aruba for the international gathering."

Continued on Next Page



Price of a barrel of petroleum
US\$ 77.00
↑2.87

Sleep in Sunday

Don't forget to set clocks back one hour at 2 a.m. Sunday.

AP

Treat yourself

McFLURRY
Chips Ahoy!



© 2009 McDonald's Corporation

De Palm Tours and Divi Resorts host SITE directors



The SITE conference, themed "Business without Boundaries," will continue on the island through November 2nd. □



Continued from Front Page

Today, 32 years later, we meet again, with the two men who were instrumental in orchestrating that milestone, chairman of the De Palm Corporation board, Harold Malmberg and hotelier Chris

Perks, among us."

"De Palm Tours," she stated, "will be celebrating 50 years of providing island clients and guests with exceptional memories of fun-filled days and exciting night themed events on Aruba. De Palm has

grown to be the most complete destination management company in the Caribbean," she added.

SITE is a global network of meeting, travel, and event professionals with more than



Senor Frog's Aruba presents:

"TRICK OR TRIP" at Senor Frog's for Halloween



ORANJESTAD - For those who seek dynamic entertainment and a quality Hallow costume contest the Annual Halloween Party, Senor Frog's Style is the place to be. This year's theme The



Pirates of the Ghost Ship" will surely appeal to all of the guests who are part of our party and with our slogan is self-explanatory, "Trick or Trip, and win a trip to the Mexican Caribbean. The Andersons Group's Senor Frogs has had a rich history with this event. In Mexico and in all its other Caribbean restaurants different theme parties are held with boat loads of entertainment fun. That is why the winner of the Halloween costume contest will be getting a chance to experience a taste of what happens in Senor Frog's restaurants in Cancun, Playa del Carmen and the Island of Cozumel.



The Senor frog's Aruba team will be offering the best party on the island, in a well outfitted club with good music, professional dancers, a live MC that will be hosting the contests and giving out the prizes throughout the night. With one of the best prizes on the island which consists of a trip for two to the beautiful and exciting Cancun,

Mexico. PRIZE PACKAGE INCLUDES: TWO ROUND-TRIP AIR FARES TO CANCUN, MEXICO, A FOUR NIGHTS AT THE ALL-INCLUSIVE RIU RESORT, PLUS THREE DINNERS AT OUR RESTAURANT BRANDS:

1.- Senor Frogs, Cancun 2.- Senor Frog's, PLAYA DEL CARMEN 3 - Senor Frog's,

COZUMEL

It is true, they went crazy with this party, but is how this group does things. They ask all participants to be present before 11pm to qualify for the contest. This fest is to be remembered, dare to be different dressed. Thanks to sponsors, Polar, Romar Trading, the support to enable this party! □

**Ghosts, Witches and Monsters Too..
They're All invited - And so are you!!!**

Champions
GOOD FOOD GOOD TIMES
GOOD SPORTS
ARUBA

**Join us for some Devilish drinks & frightfull food!!!
Costumes encouraged!
Spook-Tacular Prize for Best costume.
(will be announced at 10PM)**

**See You on Saturday October 31st
IF YOU DARE.....**

**Champions Sports Bar & Restaurant is located at Marriott's Ocean Club
L.G. Smith Blvd 99, Palm Beach. Tel. 520 6985**

HAPPY HALLOWEEN



HALLOWEEN WARM UP AT

HALLOWEEN SPECIAL MENU FOR ONLY \$25 pp

Appetizer • Pumpkin cream
 Entrée • Beef Stroganoff with Cuban Rice and Yucca
 Dessert • Delicious Halloween caramel flan

WARM UP AT THE BAR • 3 HOURS HAPPY HOUR 7 to 10 pm with Dj Yeimy

MooMba beach located between Holiday Inn and Marriott Surf Club...Right on the beach • Tel: 586-5365 •
www.moombabeach.com • member of Aruba Wine and Dine



PricewaterhouseCoopers launches the 2009 Global Annual Review.



Dennis Nally
 Chairman, PricewaterhouseCoopers
 International

ORANJESTAD -- This year's Global Annual Review of the famed multi-national PricewaterhouseCoopers was published at the end of October and looked at the issues that impact PwC's clients and people around the world.

The report examined PwC's performance, its network policies and standards, the challenges of work in the global community during fiscal year 2009, and key goals going forward in 2010.

In the report, PwC's Global

Chairman, Dennis Nally addressed "Confidence," as exhibited by international company leaders. "In a global economic downturn," he stated, "the importance of business leaders having a vision and the courage to take action, is absolutely crucial." "It is necessary," he continued, "for company leaders to strike the critical balance between government regulatory control and free markets. Our goal must be to develop regulation

that minimizes future economic problems without hampering entrepreneurial spirit. Businesses, by their nature, must take risks in order to succeed," he concludes," and finding the right level of risk, and understanding what that risk really entails, is the key challenge for both entrepreneurs and investors." The PwC report pitches "Resilience" as a key factor of survival in a global economic downturn, because in the end, the most resilient companies are those that have squarely confronted a crisis, survived it, and taken to heart its hard-won lessons. Real-life crises that organizations faced during the past year suddenly exposed their previously unnoticed weaknesses, which overnight became disturbingly apparent. In response, some companies froze, or some broke. Others demonstrated an ability to absorb the shock, correct their course of action and regain their momentum, which is what makes companies resilient in the face of today's challenges.

"Growth," and the importance of continuing to invest in people, occupies an important chapter

in the report. Job and people-cost cuts may save cash in the short term, the report states, but do not necessarily create winning platforms for the future. Organizations succeed when they are known for creating a workplace that attracts highly-skilled professionals, and when that workplace supports their development and places them in key roles, the organization stands a chance at the end of the recession, when business picks up and confidence returns, to recognize the opportunities that arise, ready and able to seize them. One of the lessons companies have learned from past business downturns is the importance of keeping the pipeline of new talent flowing. A company must maintain growth and development opportunities for top performers. PwC's main piece of advice to clients -- and one that it also tries to keep in mind for itself -- is that organizations should think twice about cutting back on their professional development programs. In bad times, the professional growth of company people should be one of management's highest priorities.

The report also dedicates attention to Commitment and the real value of "Corporate Responsibility" for business. The practice of corporate responsibility is not a compromise in wealth creation, but rather an increasingly vital component in the long-term sustainability of an organization's bottom line. Corporate Responsibility should be embedded in all aspects of how an organization operates. It adds value to business as well as benefits the broader community. A company which continuously exhibits Corporate Responsibility is rewarded in terms of public image, retention and recruitment. "Transparency," the report continues is a cornerstone of PwC's governance model and the structure, standards and processes that run the global network. PwC is proud of its global network held together by standards in key areas such as independence and risk management as well as people management and brand and communications.

All PwC member firms agree to follow this wide range of standards, including quality reviews, in exchange for the right to use the PwC name, and the use of the PwC name is very carefully monitored.

Should you wish to read Fact & Figures and key information regarding PwC's revenues, clients, market share, people and leadership, and learn about the company's view of the past challenging business period, go to: www.pwc.com/annualreview

While most member firms of the PwC network experienced tough economic conditions, despite the difficult circumstances, PwC's global revenues in local currency terms were slightly up from the previous year, even as the formerly steady growth in demand for services slowed.

The PwC Global report demonstrates the commitment of the company to clients, as it continues to grow its total workforce, positioning PwC to handle a eventual pickup in demand for services as the economy recovers. □



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No charge or tax on winnings
 Live simulcast of all major tracks
 Highest limits in Aruba
 Sports Book opens at 12:30 pm

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7 p.m.

TEXAS HOLD-EM \$4-\$8 LIMIT

BUY-IN FOR \$30 RECEIVE \$60 IN CHIPS MUST PLAY TWO (2) HOURS

Monday \$10 buy-in \$1,500 Guaranteed
 Tuesday \$10 Buy-in \$1,500 Guaranteed
 Wednesday \$10 Buy-in \$1,500 Guaranteed
 Thursday \$10 Buy-in \$1,500 Guaranteed
 Friday \$10 Buy-in \$1,500 Guaranteed

Saturday \$25 Buy-in

Sunday \$10 buy-in \$1,500 Guaranteed

(Tournaments are subject to change as per Management criteria)

BLACKJACK

Only Casino in Aruba
 Where dealer stands on
 Soft 17

CRAPS

3 - 4- 5 Times Odds

Buster's Boo Bash 2009

The creepiest party of the year is on at

Busters Garage

When: All Eves Hollow (Saturday Oct 31st, Halloween)

Time: 10:00 pm to 03:00 am

Come eat, dance and drink the night away under the freakiest and scariest beats of Dj 101 who will be playing all the hits of the 80's to present.

Featured drink of the night

Budweiser and Bud light all at \$4.00 per bottle

And as a special treat \$2.00 jello shots made with some of the most hair-raising ingredients.

Costume Contest at Midnight

1st prize - 200 florin

2nd Prize - 100 florin

3rd Prize - 50 florin

Get Creative

Located across the street from the Palm Beach McDonald's

Palm Beach #55

586-0104

Ateliers '89 demonstrates a creative "4 Weeks of Work"



ORANJESTAD - The Ateliers '89 Foundation reopened their doors two years ago with the express purpose of stimulating the imagination and artistic talent of Aruba's artists of all ages and in a wealth of disciplines, including literary and theatrical arts. Foundation Director Elvis Lopez has deployed noted artists, photographers, actors, and theater directors, many of them instructors at the Gerrit Reitveld Art Academy in Holland, who conduct free workshops, allowing islanders to discover and explore many art forms, and realize their talents. Each year the foundation assists island youth in obtaining places in noted art academies in Holland or the U.S., often assisting them in finding funding, as well.

The four-week workshops have produced some very interesting and thought-provoking art. The latest results, which opened on Thursday, October 29, are

aptly titled "4 Weeks of Work," as the freedom and diversity of the exposition seems to defy definition. As always, this workshop and the two artists that conducted it, Marjolijn Ruyg and Mariken Wessels, encouraged innovative thinking, succeeding in inducing students to realize that art should not have strictures and to not be hindered by traditional concepts.

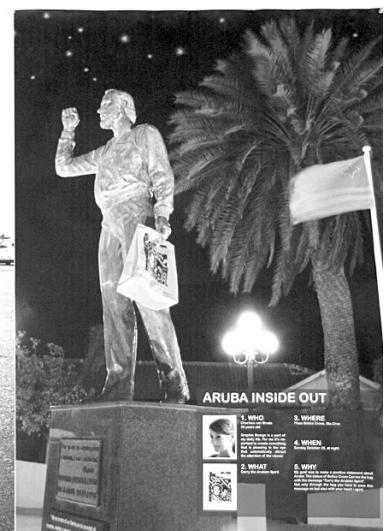
"Zoom In-Zoom Out," with Mariken examined the possibilities of Modern Art, with each student provided a small slice from a photograph of a group of people, which they had glanced at for only a moment. For this final show, students were instructed to create a persona from their single image, including what this person cared about and collected, depicting it in any medium or fashion they chose. The results are exhilarating and fascinating. Some students, such as Janine

Flanegin and Anjo Rotteveel actually kept journals of their subject's lives, creating complex personalities, which then inspired their work.

"Aruba Inside Out" with the students of Marjolijn focused on graphic art using the medium of silkscreen, which has its own restrictions. "Marshall McLuhan said, 'the medium is the message,'" commented Marjolijn, "we used simple brown paper bags as our medium, with the students designing a graphic that reflected their feelings about Aruba. We then photographed the bags in everyday settings which are also a part of the message. Each student explains their graphic, why they chose these locations, and their significance." Political and cultural commentary, island nature and personalities are only a few of the diversity of subjects studied in this most intriguing and original fashion.

The students of each workshop represent every aspect of Aruban society. Ages ranged from teenagers to those in their sixties. Some were exploring their artistic talent for the first time, others are noted artists and professionals who wished to continue to learn and grow.

The current Ateliers '89 show will be on display Monday through Friday from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM until the end of November, and should not be missed. The school and gallery are located in Oranjestad, on



Dominicanessenstraat 34, across from the Maria College School. Two new workshops will be starting on November 9. Subjects will be Sculpture with Erik Alkema and Video Art with Alberto de Michelle.

Classes are conducted four nights a week, from 6:30 to 9:30 PM, Mondays through Thursday. To inscribe, or obtain directions to the school, call Elvis Lopez at telephone 588-5776 or 563-4613. □



Good News

Baptist Church

of Aruba

Temporarily Meeting At

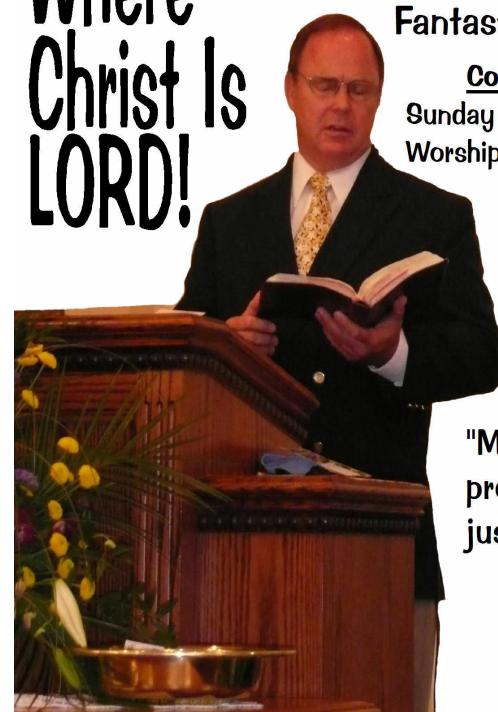
Fantastic Gardens

Come This Sunday

Sunday School 10:00 Am

Worship Service 11:00 Am

**Where
Christ Is
LORD!**



"May the Lord provide a message just for you"

We Invite You To Visit With Us!

Colombia, U.S. Sign Agreement On Use Of Bases

ORANJESTAD -- According to CNN, Colombia and the United States signed an agreement Friday that allows U.S. personnel to be stationed at seven military bases in the South American nation.

The United States says it needs the bases to help in its fight against terrorists and narcotraffickers, especially since the closure a few months ago of a U.S. base in Ecuador. The United States maintains similar "forward operating locations" in El Salvador and Aruba-Curacao.

Colombia's agreement to host the Americans has come under harsh criticism in Latin America, particularly from President Hugo Chavez in neighboring Venezuela. Chavez has likened the agreement to an act of war and accuses the United States of wanting to stage

*** Human Hints Daily ***

Feed Your Spirit

We each have unconscious aspects of ourselves that by definition, we are not aware of. Our unconscious exists beyond the limits of our awareness, yet we can all attest to the power of this very real Entity. Unconscious includes all the forces and impulses that drive us without our conscious knowledge.

Our unconscious is a vast, multilayered realm, encompassing positive and negative energetic patterns. It is made up of your subconscious ego and your superconscious spirit. Which aspect of yourself are you more in tune with throughout the day? Make a Conscious Shift toward expressing your

spirit, and you will align with the forces of the Universe.

Humanity is shifting its awareness from the subconscious to the superconscious, also known as Unity Consciousness. When we live from the point of view of our Spirit, we know that all three-dimensional energy expression comes from the same Source.

All people and things are separate parts of the same Whole.

We're all siblings.

We are mostly unconscious creatures stuck in automatic reaction to three dimensions, so how do we become superconscious? By focusing

on our selves. Start by realizing that everything outside of you is a reflection of what is inside of you. Change your attitude about your self, and your surroundings will transform to match. If you feel yourself to be absolutely abundant, that is what the three dimensional illusion will reflect back to you. If you focus on lack in your life, your life will be lacking.

Until now, our personal Spirit has been a part of our unconscious. In this moment, however, we are waking up and becoming aware of our Spirit Selves. We are beginning to see the illusion for the fleeting uncertainty that it is. We are recognizing an integral part of ourselves.

Halloween in-style at Salt & Pepper

ARAWAK GARDEN - When you like to have a fun night out in a local place, with local prices but on a central location Salt & Pepper is the answer. Tonight you can enjoy their Halloween party with Happy Hour from 10 pm till 11.30 pm. Cozy bar, friendly staff and good prices on drinks and food (yes the kitchen is still open). Heineken, Balashi, Polar, Amstel Bright, Budweiser, Bud Light, Miller Lite, Premium Liquors at ridiculously scary low prices.

DJ Sebastian will get you in the mood for a fun night out. Those with an original costume get a FREE Halloween shot!! Put some spice in your life and come to Salt & Pepper. Salt & Pepper is located at Arawak Gardens, High Rise Hotels. In front of Occidental Hotel, Open from 8 AM till 2 AM, for breakfast, lunch, dinner & bar.□

~Quentin Danziger

Quentin has over 20 years experience balancing what we refer to as the Real World, with science and spirit. He has held positions of responsibility and authority, received a Bachelor of Science in Engineering Physics from Colorado School of Mines, and has also studied many avenues of alternative thought.

HumanHints is the culmination of his knowledge, experience and practice. These free daily emails detail concrete, real-world techniques to consciously create any future you choose, while in the throes of daily life created by outdated modes of thought.

HumanHints.com, PO Box 997, Vail, CO 81658

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Until Tomorrow...

ATTENTION - ATTENTION - ATTENTION - ATTENTION



IN CONECTION WITH A SITE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE,
THE ROAD BETWEEN
THE MILL RESORT AND THE RADISSON ARUBA RESORT
WILL BE CLOSED FOR ALL TRAFFIC
(EXCEPT DESTINATION TRAFFIC)

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2009
FROM 3 PM TO 12 MIDNIGHT

WE APPOLOGIZE FOR THE INCONVENIENCE THANK YOU FOR YOUR
COOPERATION



Aruba TODAY

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ALWAYS ... ON TOP OF THE NEWS!

Early Birds catch the Fresh Catch at Fishes & More

Ask about the Early Bird Menu from 4 PM to 6:30 PM



Fishes & More specialize in fresh fish and seafood, and at the same time please the non-fish lovers as well. All the dishes are prepared a la minute by an internationally experienced kitchen team, which gives the twist to our dishes. Influences from all over the world are found back

on the menu and they are already well known for our daily changing specials. If you have a large party, or if there is anything you feel like in particular, Fishes & More can always arrange to have your dinner cooked just for you, as they work only with fresh and honest

products!

Ideally located in front of the Occidental Resort (Former Allegro), they are visited both by individuals and families alike, as we have a kids playground and a kids menu to entertain them, so they can enjoy their

dinner as much as you will yours!

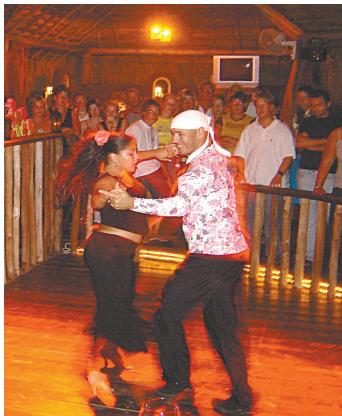
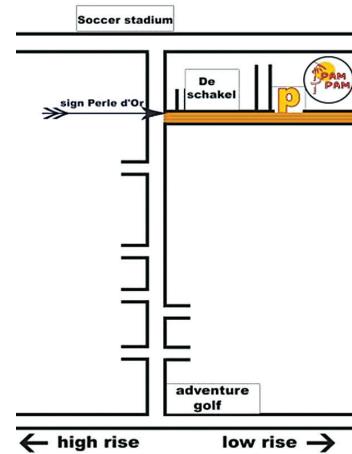
We have entertainment every night at 8PM, and even after dinner the perfect night out continues, as you

can shop till you drop since the shops on our friendly square are open until eleven.

See what its like to experience real fresh dining joy with a twist!

For reservations call
+(297) 586-3659

Experience authentic regional ambiance every Friday evening at Pam-Pam Café



Pam-Pam Café, located in the charming Perle D'Or Resort in Bubali, is the place to be on Friday evenings for a great taste of regional music, dance, food and hospitality, as proprietors and hosts Nico and Monique van de Borne welcome guests for their weekly "Latin Night."

Pam-Pam Café is situated in a delightful tropical setting that is the perfect backdrop for a show by 2002 World Salsa Champions Janice and Oslin Boekhoudt, who run their Pachanga Dance School

out Perle D'Or. They and their dance troupe put on a show of the exotic Zouk, originating from the French islands of Guadeloupe and Martinique, and inspiration for the Brazilian Lambada. If their sensual movements inspire any audience members, they can sign up at Pam-Pam for private dance lessons from the Pachanga crew, which also teach Salsa and Merengue.

In addition to the island music and dance, reasonably prices snacks (10.50 in Arubian florins (\$6) for an Assorted Snack Platter or Buffalo Wings among

other choices) and cocktails are available throughout the evening. From 11 PM until closing time, Pam-Pam offers a special on top shelf whiskey for only 6 Arubian



florins (\$3.50)

If you are looking for the "real deal" in Caribbean entertainment and ambiance and a chance to rub elbows with islanders, schedule Pam-Pam Café as your Friday night entertainment!

Pam Pam restaurant

First-time patrons will be pleasantly surprised by an appealing a la carte menu that is quite affordably priced, and main courses, (25) which are priced between \$13 / \$22.

Pam-Pam's house specialty is a unique method of preparation, which presently,

in Aruba, is found only at their establishment and which they have dubbed their "Gourmet Meal." A grill and a collection of the freshest of ingredients for the various dishes ordered are assembled tableside, and patrons prepare the food themselves, controlling their preference of seasonings and garnishes, along with degree of doneness, providing a unique and personal taste treat. It is suggested that reservations for this singular dining experience be made one day in advance. When you want to see restaurants menu, visit: www.visitaruba.com Phone; 5877710 or 5932660

SITE delegates welcomed with a spectacular night under the big top at Occidental Grand



Last night, the Aruba Tourism Authority (ATA) and Aruba Hotel and Tourism Association (AHATA) welcomed nearly 300 delegates of the Society of Incentive and

Travel Executives, SITE, from around the globe, here for a weekend of workshops and networking during their annual international conference. It began with a spectacular

**Don't miss our
Plentiful Paella!**

*A dinner
under the
Caribbean sky!*

Las Ramblas
Tapas & Charcoal Grill

The menu features authentic Spanish tapas and entrees such as delicious Seafood Paella, USDA Beef Tenderloin & New Zealand Lamb Chops from the charcoal grill.

Open from 6.00pm - 10.30pm. Closed on Sundays and Wednesdays.

Reservation recommended

For reservation call 520-1100 ext. 6154



Visit us at our
NEW location on
La Cabana's Boardwalk



display by the staff of the Occidental Grand Resort, where delegates were immersed in the world of the circus, and executive staff members of the Occidental

were transformed into denizens of the big top. SITE President Patrick Sullivan was very impressed by Groups and Conventions Manager Janith Agunbero, who became a bearded lady for the night!

While sipping a champagne toast, the SITE delegates received cotton candy from the head of security, had tarot readings



from the rooms manager, and Occidental Assistant Manager Juan-Louis did a fabulous job as the handsome ringmaster. Occidental's Fun Club Productions performed an abbreviated version of the resort's famous CirCaribe show, allowing the incentive travel executives a glimpse of the quality of entertainment available on Aruba. It was a most impressive beginning to the evening, which finished next door where SITE delegates enjoyed dinner on the beach compliments of the Hyatt Regency Aruba Resort.

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SHOPPING ARCADE**

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Live Flamenco Show & Paella Party tonight at Casa Tua Barcelona



You don't have to wait for the show as the highlight at Casa Tua Barcelona are new lunch specials every weekday from Monday till Friday! A \$9.95 lunch special; Beef tenderloin with a red wine sauce or choose the Grouper Fillet for \$11.95. Both dishes include a soft drink. Fresh Fish lovers can treat the palate to the Whole Red Snapper, served with Rice and a salad for \$19.95.

All days of the week we serve Cold and Hot tapas as appetizers or the delicious Iberian Ham Pata Negra which we import directly from Andalucía. As your main course you could choose our Paella, traditionally prepared on the spot by our chef! Combine this Spanish dish with our home-made sangria to complete your dinner.

Of course we saved the best for last as no one does an ending better than Casa Tua with their dreamy Tiramisu. If you're into something different we suggest tasting the Espresso Martini Cocktail as dessert, you won't be disappointed.

The best part about such a good ending is that it guarantees you'll be back for more...



ORANJESTAD - Tonight is going to be a great, great night at Casa Tua Barcelona. Don't miss a must see Live Flamenco Show with songbird Angela Croes who will fill the restaurant with flamenco songs and rumba gitana music. Angela is much more than music, she performs authentic Spanish dancing. The show will start around 8:30 pm and be complemented with Casa Tua's famous Paella and some new dishes like baby octopus a la planca and mussels.



Casa Tua Barcelona Downtown
Open from 11.30am to 10.30pm, Sunday from 5pm to 11pm tel. 588 5695. Casa Tua Palm Beach open from 5pm to 11pm, tel 586 8470

CELEBRATE ALHAMBRA CASINO'S
25TH ANNIVERSARY
WIN YOUR SHARE OF
\$25,000
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\$1,000 **\$2,500**
EVERY DAY MINIMUM*
NOVEMBER 7TH - 30TH DECEMBER 1ST

Earn Entries beginning October 27th!

Get One FREE entry daily and receive additional entries for every 150 slot points earned per day for your chance to win \$1,000 in Free Slot Play every night at 11:00pm November 7th - 30th and a minimum \$2,500 Grand Prize December 1st.

*Must be a Players Club member. Must be present to win. All prizes will be paid in Instant Credit. Entry tickets must be printed by 10:00pm and in the drawing barrel by 10:15pm to be eligible for that day's drawing. Drawing drum will be emptied nightly and all tickets will be placed into the grand prize drawing drum. If no winner is present, that day's prize will be added to grand prize drawing on December 1st. See Players Club for complete details.



Super Bingo Saturday!

Super 4-Card Bingo
starting at 1pm!

\$6 for 4-Card Bingo!
8 games to play!

\$1,000 in CASH PRIZES!

Additional \$500 Cash Prize
in our Early Bird Drawing
when you purchase your
card before noon!

Alhambra
CASINO
ARUBA
Celebrating 25 years!

Saba, Statia maintain their free port status

THE HAGUE--Saba and St. Eustatius will maintain their "free port" status when they become part of the Netherlands in 2010. However, excise duties on gasoline will go up. This can be deduced from the Customs and Excise Law for the BES islands Bonaire, St. Eustatius and Saba, which was sent to the Dutch Parliament's Second Chamber on Thursday, along with the BES Tax Law. Import duties will not be levied in the BES islands. Bonaire does have import duties at the moment, but these will be eliminated because the Netherlands wants to have a clear, unambiguous tax system, whereby the situation is the same on all three islands. Excise duties on gasoline in Saba and St. Eustatius will

remain, and will be increased to match those in Bonaire. In Bonaire, however, consumers will have to pay excise duties on hard liquor, wine and beer. They will also have to pay tax on all tobacco products, and not only on cigarettes, as is currently the case. Saba and St. Eustatius will remain duty-free where it comes to alcoholic beverages and tobacco products. The fact that no import duties and excises will be levied on these two islands has to do with their proximity to St. Maarten, which is a duty- and tax-free tourism destination. Saba and St. Eustatius had indicated that they wanted to maintain this free port status because they depended on St. Maarten for supplies of goods and

tourists.

The new fiscal system for the BES islands will be kept as simple as possible, mainly because of the small economies of the islands. A simple fiscal system will benefit both the people of the BES islands and the local private sector. The legislation presumes that tax revenues at the macroeconomic level will remain the same as current tax revenues of the three islands. The total revenue of federal taxes imposed on the islands is about US \$42 million. There will be a shift from direct to indirect taxes.

The new fiscal system should contribute to an improvement in the investment climate of the BES islands. But

these economic activities should genuinely contribute to sustainable economic development.

Wherever possible, the existing Antillean fiscal system was used as a point of departure. This creates the necessary public support.

Dutch State Secretary of Finance Jan Kees de Jager, who submitted the draft legislation, held talks with Saba and St. Eustatius in the Netherlands earlier this week, and he also spoke to Bonaire about the design of the new fiscal system.

The law proposals will be handled first in the Second Chamber and then in the First Chamber. Legislation to regulate income and

wage tax on the BES islands was already submitted to the Second Chamber on October 12. Income and wage taxes were included in a government amendment (Nota van Wijziging) to the BES Implementation and Adaptation Laws, submitted by State Secretary of Kingdom Relations Ank Bijleveld-Schouten.

Handling by the Dutch Parliament should be completed before October 10, 2010, when the BES islands will be integrated into the Netherlands as "public entities." The new fiscal system will be introduced via a Kingdom Decree, which may go into effect on January 1, 2011. □

Total Nutraceutical Solutions Receives Approval and Makes Initial Shipment

STEVENSON, Wash.--(Business Wire)-- Total Nutraceutical Solutions, Inc. (TNS) (OTCBB:TNUS), announced that it has received approval for importation of ImmuSANO and GlucoSANO from the Inspectorate of Public Health, Bureau of Pharmaceutical Affairs in Curacao, The Netherlands Antilles. Caribbean International Medical N.V. ("CIM"), based in Curacao, is the exclusive distributor for The Netherlands Antilles, Aruba, Trinidad-Tabago and Suriname with the option to expand to other Caribbean islands based on certain commercial benchmarks. The initial 1,000 unit shipment to CIM was sent on Thursday October 29th.

"CIM is an experienced sales and marketing company throughout the Caribbean," stated Marvin S. Hausman MD, CEO. "We are very happy to have CIM as a partner to handle the marketing, sales and distribution of our products in this geographic area."

"I am very excited that our company has partnered with TNS and we will utilize all of our expertise to commercialize the unique TNS product line throughout the Caribbean," stated Lloyd Philbert, CEO of CIM.

About Total Nutraceutical Solutions, Inc.:

Total Nutraceutical Solutions, Inc. (TNS), is an emerging nutraceutical company with a focus on discovering, formulating and marketing products composed primarily of organic natural mushroom compounds that contain bioactive nutrients for potential health benefits. TNS develops production and analytic technologies for food and nutritional supplements composed primarily of mushrooms and their mycelial biomasses. Novel clinical models and biomarkers are used to show nutritional and clinical efficacy of our products. In addition to preventative healthcare formulations and nutritional approaches to a wide variety of human conditions and illnesses, TNS also develops and acquires breakthrough nutritional tools and products in the fields of animal husbandry and livestock feeds. □



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Alliance chides DP for practising 'old politics'

PHILIPSBURG--The National Alliance (NA) board has responded to what it calls "DP attacks" by chiding the red party for practising the "same old politics," distorting the truth and being hypocritical with the people of St. Maarten. NA specifically referred to DP Island Councilwoman Maria Buncamper-Molanus' recent statement alluding to the management of the National Health Insurance (NHI) by one particular business and her criticism of the NA interest in building a cricket field.

"The truth is that this well-known businessman has repeatedly told government

that he does not wish to manage St. Maarten's NHI alone and that he is not interested in underwriting the plan. However, he has always expressed the view that National Health Insurance for all is a good and noble thing to do provided it is managed well and does not significantly increase the cost of doing business for the insured persons and taxpayers," a press release from the NA board read.

The Board also noted that in a speech on insurance given at the Philipsburg Mutual Improvement Association in January the same businessman

had agreed with the Netherlands Antilles Insurance Association NAVV that no one insurance company should have the sole management of the NHI and had suggested a system where the insured persons would decide what insurer should handle their individual or collective healthcare.

On the subject of the cricket field, NA explained that David Forsythe had been charged with the responsibility of making a feasibility study of a cricket field on behalf of then-commissioner of sports Maria Buncamper-Molanus. Forsythe, NA said, apparently met with the same businessman

on several occasions, and with St. Maarten Cricket Association Past President Derrick Holiday and Chief Selector Keith Gittens to discuss the necessity of a cricket field. "If the cricket field was important to Maria Buncamper-Molanus then when she was Commissioner of Sports, how come not now?" NA asked.

"This nasty gutter-style ploy of the Democratic Party misleads people about the true intentions of a philanthropist who has contributed significantly to this community. The Democratic Party even insults the intelligence of the people

and even mocks the ability of St. Maarteners to motivate themselves and inspire others back into the political process," NA said.

It added that the latest attacks proved how out of touch the Democratic Party had become. "Each day will bring a desperate new set of attacks and misrepresentation from the Democratic Party. But at the National Alliance we will not let any attack stand. We will respond quickly, forcefully and respectfully to take their smear tactics head-on. We condemn these attacks because above the difference of politics, we are all St. Maarteners." □

Boat stolen from harbour in bid to transport drugs

~ In major security breach ~

POINTE BLANCHE--A thief walked into the harbour late Wednesday, started a St. Maarten Ports Authority (SMPA) pilot boat and sped out of Great Bay in front of a security guard.

The Coast Guard intercepted the man in the stolen boat several hours later, heading to St. Croix with marijuana. He was arrested.

Checkmate Security Services fired the unidentified guard for failing to stop the thief or report the suspicious behaviour, according to reports from different sources that the security company refused to confirm or deny. However, Checkmate admitted that the security risk had been great.

"Obviously, this was a very serious breach," said Checkmate head Michael Kuiper Thursday. He referred further questions about the theft and circumstances involving the guard to SMPA, citing an "investigation into what happened last night."

The thief entered Dr. A.C. Wathey Cruise and

Cargo Facilities after 10:00pm and stole the boat from the tender services jetty where it is stored after hours, SMPA representatives told The Daily Herald. He found the keys that were kept on the boat, started the engine and drove it away. A security guard saw it happen.

"The guard thought he was an employee," a source said. SMPA requires workers to wear uniforms whenever on duty. It was after hours.

SMPA runs operations at the harbour, controlling everything from maintenance to security to docking fees. St. Maarten Harbour Group of Companies Chief Operating Officer Keith Franca told this newspaper keys were often left on boats to allow drivers to find them easier in emergencies. "This has been the practice for years," he said, adding that SMPA planned to change policy on accessing the vehicles after this security failure. Coast Guard vessel Poema caught an unidentified man speeding in the direction of St. Croix. When

they stopped him and searched the boat, they found 39 kilos of marijuana. The Coast Guard seized the drugs and the boat, and took the man into custody.

The theft shows St. Maarten's harbour can still be violated.

The island has been training for years, as have most other international ports, under the International Ship and Ports Facility (ISPS) Code, a series of security regulations implemented worldwide after the 9-11 attacks on the New York City World Trade Center eight years ago. It is mandatory for ports to follow ISPS regulations on safety to "ensure confidence that adequate and proportionate maritime security measures are in place."

Both Commissioner of Harbour Affairs Theo Heyliger and Harbour Group of Companies Chief Executive Officer Mark Mingo are off-island attending a Florida-Caribbean Cruise Association (FCCA) conference. □

Stocks sink as worries mount about spending

By SARA LEPRO,
AP Business Writers

NEW YORK — Stocks plunged Friday, erasing all of the previous day's big gains, as a drop in consumer spending fanned worries that the economic recovery won't be sustainable.

Major stock indexes tumbled more than 2 percent in afternoon trading, including the Dow Jones industrials, which gave back all of Thursday's 200-point gain. The biggest declines were among banks, energy and materials companies.

As stocks fell, investors moved to safer assets like the dollar and Treasurys. At the same time, the Chicago Board Options Exchange's Volatility Index, known as the market's fear gauge, soared nearly 25 percent to 30.88, the highest since early July. Its historical average is 18-20. It hit a record 89.5 a year ago.

The decline in stocks marked an about-face for the market, which had rallied on Thursday after the government reported a 3.5 percent jump in gross domestic product in the third quarter.

Investors started shedding stocks after the Labor Department said personal spending fell 0.5 percent in September. Though the decline was in line with forecasts, it was the largest drop in nine months and followed a 1.3 percent jump in August fueled by the government's popular Cash for Clunkers car rebate program.

The day's report cast further doubt on the economy's recovery, which many economists fear has been driven by the government stimulus measures. Without a rebound in consumer spending, which makes up a major part of the U.S. economy, investors worry the recovery won't last. With Friday being the last day of the month and the end of the fiscal year for many mutual funds, the market's declines could be exaggerated, analysts said. Fund managers looking to minimize taxes for shareholders often sell some of

their investments as the fiscal year comes to a close. The Dow fell 224.83, or 2.3 percent, to 9,737.75. The Standard & Poor's 500 index fell 26.62, or 2.5 percent, to 1,039.49, and the Nasdaq composite index dropped 48.25, or 2.3 percent, to 2,049.30.

A drop in the mood of consumers added to the day's bad news. The Reuters/University of Michigan consumer sentiment index fell to 70.6 in October from 73.5 in September. The reading was revised slightly higher from a preliminary estimate of 69.4 earlier this month, and was roughly in line with expectations.

The Labor Department also reported Friday that personal income, the fuel for future spending, was flat in September compared with the previous month, in line with expectations. A lack of income growth is due, in part, to ongoing high unemployment rates, also a major worry for the market.

"Until we get to better employment numbers, it's hard to get real income growth and real spending ... and we're just not there yet," said Kurt Karl, chief US economist at Swiss Re. "Today is a reaction to a little bit of excess exuberance yesterday."

Financial stocks were among the day's biggest decliners. Shares of CIT Group Inc. dropped nearly 15 percent after the commercial lender said billionaire investor and bondholder Carl Icahn agreed to support its restructuring plan and provide it with a \$1 billion line of credit. Investors are still worried that the New York-based company could file for bankruptcy protection. Shares dipped 14 cents to 81 cents.

Bank of America Corp. shares lost 71 cents, or 4.5 percent, to \$15.02, while JPMorgan Chase & Co. fell \$1.93, or 4.4 percent, to \$42.42.

Energy and basic materials producers also fell sharply as the dollar gained ground against other major currencies.

Alcoa Inc. fell 68 cents, or 5.2 percent, to \$12.32, while Exxon Mobil Corp. sank \$2.54, or 3.4 percent, to \$71.42. On the New York Mercantile Exchange, gold prices slipped about \$9 to \$1,037 an ounce, while oil prices tumbled \$2.38 to \$77.49 a barrel.

Bond prices rallied as stocks fell. The yield on the benchmark 10-year Treasury note fell to 3.42 percent from 3.50 percent late Thursday.

Stocks have fallen for most of the past week and are on track to finish the month with losses as worries about the economy escalate. Without stronger evidence that the labor market is improving and consumers are feeling more comfortable about spending, investors will have trouble extending the market's massive rally into a ninth month. Even with this week's declines, the S&P 500 index is up about 55 percent since hitting a 12-year low in early March.

"I think you have a market that is ultimately looking for its direction," said Bob Froehlich, senior managing director at Hartford Financial Services. "We really are at the inflection point. You tend to have an overreaction to both extremes."

Analysts say trading is likely to remain volatile in the coming week amid a flood of major economic news, including the Institute of Supply Management's readings on the manufacturing and services industries, sales reports from major retailers and the Labor Department's October employment report — arguably the month's most important piece of economic data. The Federal Reserve will also convene for a two-day policy meeting beginning Tuesday.

More than eight stocks fell for every one that rose on the New York Stock Exchange, where volume came to 791.6 million shares, compared with 852.5 million at the same time a day earlier.

In other trading, the Russell 2000 index of smaller companies fell 16.97, or 2.9



Traders work on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange, October 29, 2009.

REUTERS/Brendan McDermid

percent, to 563.25.

Overseas, Japan's Nikkei

stock average rose 1.5 percent.

Britain's FTSE 100 fell 1.8

percent, Germany's DAX index dropped 3.1 percent, and France's CAC-40 declined 2.9 percent. □



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Consumer spending falls in September, incomes flat



In this Oct. 7, 2009 photo, a Best Buy saleswoman, lower, gives change to a customer at Best Buy in Mountain View, Calif. Consumer spending plunged in September by the largest amount in nine months, reflecting the end of the government's Cash for Clunkers auto sales program. Incomes, the fuel for future spending, were flat.

(AP Photo/Paul Sakuma)

By MARTIN CRUTSINGER,
AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON

— Consumer spending plunged in September by the largest amount in nine months, reflecting the end of the government's Cash for Clunkers auto sales program. Incomes, the fuel for future spending, were flat.

While the government reported that the overall economy grew in the July-September period, signaling the end of the worst recession in seven decades, the weakness in spending and incomes as the quarter ended underscores the fragility of the recovery. On Wall Street, investors pulled back and stocks erased all the previous day's big gains. The Dow Jones industrial average dropped about 235 points

in afternoon trading, and broader indexes also plunged. The biggest declines were among banks, energy and materials companies.

Economists worry that the recovery could falter in coming months if households cut back on spending to cope with rising unemployment, heavy debt loads and tight credit conditions.

"With incomes so soft, increased spending will be a struggle," Ian Shepherdson, chief U.S. economist at HighFrequencyEconomics, wrote in a note to clients. The Commerce Department said Friday that spending dropped 0.5 percent in September, the first decline in five months. Personal incomes were unchanged as workers contend with rising unemployment. Wages and

salaries fell 0.2 percent, erasing a 0.2 percent gain in August.

A second report showed that wages and benefits including health care rose just 1.5 percent for the 12 monthsendinginSeptember. That's the smallest increase for the Labor Department's Employment Cost Index on records that date to 1982.

The concern is that much of third-quarter economic growth stemmed from temporary government programs such as the clunkers sales incentives that ended in August.

The government said Thursday the gross domestic product, the broadest measure of economic health, expanded at an annual rate of 3.5 percent in the third quarter, the first increase after a record four straight declines.

A 3.4 percent rise in consumer spending, which accounts for 70 percent of total economic activity, powered the gain. And consumers appear willing to pay a little more for Colgate toothpaste, Kellogg's Frosted Flakes and Gillette Fusion shavers, according to earnings released Thursday. Procter & Gamble Co., Colgate-Palmolive Co. and Kellogg Co. all gave upbeat reports and even stronger outlooks for next year.

However, some economists believe that consumer spending will slow sharply in the current quarter, lowering GDP growth to perhaps 1.5 percent. Analysts said the risk of a double-dip recession cannot be ruled out over the next year.

The 0.5 percent drop in consumer spending in September followed a 1.4 percent surge in August which was propelled by the big jump in car sales that month as consumers rushed to take advantage of the clunkers' incentives.

Last month's drop in spending resulted in a boost in the savings rate to 3.3 percent of after-tax incomes, up from 2.8 percent in August. Many analysts believe households will keep striving to increase savings in the months ahead to replenish nest eggs that were crushed by last year's stock market crash. That also would hold back spending in the months ahead, weakening the recovery.

The Obama administration is being encouraged to extend some of the elements of the \$787 billion economic stimulus package that Congress passed in February to jump-start the economy, but the White House has been cautious in endorsing various proposals being advanced by Democratic lawmakers for fear of pushing the federal budget deficit even higher. The deficit hit an all-time high of \$1.42 trillion for the budget year ending Sept. 30.

But inflation remains in check. An inflation gauge tied to consumer spending edged up just 0.1 percent in September, after a 0.3 percent August rise. Excluding food and energy, the gauge rose 1.3 percent over the past year, well within the Federal Reserve's comfort zone. □

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The Brazilian-style steakhouse also offers a garden full of healthy eats on a lavish 40-item seasonal salad bar, giving dieters plenty to choose from to accompany the

slow-roasted meats. A selection of fresh lettuces and vegetables may be standard for most salad bars, but Texas de Brazil's version goes a gourmet twist further, treating the palate to additional items like marinated portabella mushrooms, sweet roasted bell peppers, hearts of palm, sundried tomatoes, imported cheeses—including fresh buffalo mozzarella—sushi, homemade soups, and much more.

The salad bar is included in the continuous service meal with unlimited choices from the grilled meats, but for vegetarians or the non-meat eaters, a special price is offered for just the salad bar. Of course, for those looking to splurge while on vacation, Texas de Brazil will gladly serve their garlic mashed potatoes, traditional fried plantains, and their world-famous parmesan cheese bread as part of the meal.

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On Top Of The News

Email: news@arubatoday.com

Saturday, October 31, 2009



U.S. says 650,000 jobs created, saved by stimulus

BRETT J. BLACKLEDGE
MATT APUZZO

Associated Press Writers

WASHINGTON (AP) — About 650,000 jobs have been saved or created under President Barack Obama's economic stimulus plan, the White House said Friday, saying it is on track to reach the president's goal of 3.5 million jobs by the end of next year.

New job numbers from businesses, contractors, state and local governments, nonprofit groups and universities were scheduled to be released publicly later Friday. White House economic adviser Jared Bernstein said the figures will show that, when adding in jobs linked to \$288 billion in tax cuts, the stimulus plan has created or saved more than 1 million jobs.

The data will be posted on recovery.gov, the web site of the independent panel overseeing stimulus spending.

"It's a great example of the unprecedented transparency, where the American taxpayer can point and click and see their taxes creating jobs," Bernstein said.

Government recovery plans — everything from the \$787 billion stimulus to tax credits for buying new homes to government deals on new cars — are credited with helping the economy grow again after a record four straight losing quarters.

But the job market has yet to show signs of recovery, putting pressure on the White House to show that the stimulus was worth its hefty price tag.

When it is released Friday, the new data will be the largest and most complete look at how the stimulus money has been spent so far. The White House promised the data would be far more reliable than the first batch of numbers on federal contracts, which the administration initially embraced, then branded a "test run" after thousands of errors were discovered.

Teachers are expected to represent the largest number of jobs in the report. With state budgets in crisis, federal aid helped governors avoid major cuts in education, which officials said spared hundreds of thousands of teachers from the unemployment line. □

Obama to lift ban on U.S. entry for those with HIV

[Read Next Page](#)

Investigators seek clues in S. Calif. midair crash



By GILLIAN FLACCUS
Associated Press Writer

SAN DIEGO — The nighttime collision of a Coast Guard aircraft on a rescue mission and a Marine helicopter left nine people feared dead at sea Friday as investigators tried to solve the mystery of how the aircrews failed to see each other in a heavily used military training area.

Continued on Page B3



Honduras' ousted President Manuel Zelaya smiles in front of his laptop at the Brazilian embassy in Tegucigalpa, early Friday, Oct. 30, 2009. A top regional diplomatic official said negotiators for Honduras' interim and ousted leaders have signed an agreement that allows for the possible return of Zelaya.

Associated Press

Ousted Honduran leader: Pact will restore me

JUAN ZAMORANO
Associated Press Writer

TEGUCIGALPA, Honduras (AP) — Deposed President Manuel Zelaya and his opponents have agreed to a U.S.-brokered deal that he said will return him to power four months after a coup shook faith in Latin America's young democracies.

The power-sharing agreement reached late Thursday calls for Congress to decide whether to reinstate the leftist Zelaya.

Continued on Page B8

Obama to lift ban on U.S. entry for those with HIV

DARLENE SUPERVILLE,
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama said Friday that a U.S. travel ban against people infected with the HIV virus will be overturned early next year.

The order will be completed on Monday, Obama said, finishing a process begun during the administration of former President George W. Bush.

The United States is one of about a dozen countries that bar entry to travelers based on their HIV status. The ban has been in place for more than 20 years. Obama said it will be lifted just after the new year, after a waiting period of about 60 days.

"If we want to be a global leader in combating HIV/AIDS, we need to act like it," Obama said at the White House before signing a bill to extend the Ryan White HIV/AIDS program. Begun in 1990, the program provides medical care, medication and support services to about half a million Americans with HIV or AIDS, mostly low-income people.



President Barack Obama signs the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Treatment Extension Act of 2009, Friday, Oct. 30, 2009, in the Diplomatic Reception Room of the White House in Washington. Behind him are various lawmakers and Jeanne White-Ginder, mother of Ryan White, second right. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi of Calif. is at right.

The bill is named for a teenager who contracted AIDS through a blood transfusion at age 13. Ryan White went on to fight AIDS-related discrimination against him and others like him

in the late 1980s and to help educate Americans about the disease. He died in April 1990 at 18.

His mother, Jeanne White-Ginder, attended the signing

made HIV infection the only medical condition explicitly listed under immigration law as grounds for inadmissibility to the country.

The law effectively has kept out thousands of students, tourists and refugees and complicated the adoption of children with HIV. No major international AIDS conference has been held in the United States since 1993 because HIV-positive activists or researchers could not enter the country.

Obama said lifting the ban "is a step that will save lives" by encouraging people to get tested and to get treatment.

Rachel B. Tiven, executive director of Immigration Equality, said the ban pointlessly has barred people from the United States, and separated families with no benefit to the public health.

"Now, those families can be reunited, and the United States can put its mouth where its money is: ending the stigma that perpetuates HIV transmission, supporting science and welcoming those who seek to build a life in this country," said Tiven, whose organization works for fairness in immigration for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and HIV-positive people.

Under a program begun by Bush, the United States spends billions of dollars annually to fight HIV/AIDS in Africa. □

Associated Press
ceremony, as did several members of Congress and HIV/AIDS activists.

In 1987, at a time of widespread fear and ignorance about HIV, the Department of Health and Human Services added the disease to the list of communicable diseases that disqualified a person from entering the United States.

The department tried in 1991 to reverse its decision but was opposed by Congress, which in 1993 went the other way and

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Photo by Diane Keijzer

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U.S. Coast Guard divers board a MH-60 Jayhawk helicopter at the San Diego Coast Guard Station Friday, Oct. 30, 2009 in San Diego. The U.S. Coast Guard and Navy were searching early Friday for as many as nine people off the Southern California coast following a collision between a Coast Guard plane and a Marine Corps helicopter, officials said.

INVESTIGATORS

Continued from Page B1

Military aircraft and ships searched the ocean off Southern California for any sign of the victims while investigators gathered recordings of air traffic controllers and pilot communications. The search covered 644 square miles of ocean but focused on a debris field 50 miles off the San Diego coast. The crash involved a Coast Guard C-130 with a seven-member crew and a Marine Corps AH-1W Super Cobra with two aboard as it flew in formation near the Navy's San Clemente Island, a site with training ranges for amphibious, air, surface and undersea warfare. It was not known whether the pilots were aware of each other before the 7:10 p.m. Thursday collision. "A tragic event," Pentagon spokesman Bryan Whitman said. "The search is still on, but it's likely taken the lives of nine individuals."

The identities of the crew members were not immediately known. The C-130 crew had survival gear aboard the aircraft, including exposure suits that could have allowed them to survive in the water for hours, Petty Officer Henry Dunphy said.

The Sacramento-based C-130 crew was looking for a man on 12-foot motorized skiff who was reported missing after leaving Avalon Harbor on Santa Catalina Island to reach a friend on a disabled yacht that had gone adrift off Catalina in high winds Tuesday authorities said.

The Marine helicopter was flying from Camp Pendleton

Civil rights group elects MLK's daughter president

ERRIN HAINES

Associated Press Writer

ATLANTA (AP) — The daughter of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. has been chosen as the first woman to head the civil rights organization that he co-founded.

The Southern Christian Leadership Conference announced the election of the Rev. Bernice King as its eighth president Friday morning. Interim President Byron Clay called King and said she accepted the position.

"In the spirit of your father, Martin Luther King Jr., we look forward with anticipation to your leadership," Clay told King, 46, as reporters listened to his end of the conversation.

She could be heard responding, "Thank you very much." "SCLC is a great organization with a rich history," Clay told reporters. "She is excited. I am excited. The nation will be excited."

Today, SCLC has roughly 10,000 members and nearly 80 chapters in 17 states from Georgia to California. The group has also opened a nonviolent conflict resolution center in Israel, with plans to open 10 international sites in 10 years.

Martin Luther King Jr. was the SCLC's first president, serving from 1957 until his death in 1968. His eldest son,

Associated Press

In a Saturday Oct. 18, 2008 file photo, Rev. Bernice King, talks at a interview in Atlanta. The Rev. Bernice King has been chosen as the first woman to head the civil rights organization co-founded by her father, the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. The Southern Christian Leadership Conference announced her election as its eighth president Friday morning, Oct. 30, 2009.

Associated Press

Martin Luther King III, was president from 1998 to 2003. Bernice King inherits an SCLC and issues much changed from the days of her father's leadership. And she will have to work to rebuild the organization, which has stumbled in recent years.

"She can hearken back to her father's legacy, but she's going to have to redefine it," said Emory University political science professor Andra Gillespie.

"She now, as his child, is going to have to figure out a way to push that legacy forward so we don't perpetuate a stagnant, chauvinistic civil rights agenda."

Internal bickering has overshadowed signs of progress for SCLC that included paying off millions in debt and opening a \$3 million headquarters in Atlanta. A former state director in Florida accused several national leaders of financial mismanagement and the president of the Los Angeles chapter last fall clashed with leadership over his support for gay marriage in California. Charles Steele resigned as president on Jan. 31 and still works with the group as a conflict resolution consultant. Clay has served as interim president since February. It is not yet known when he will step down and King will take over as president. □

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Congress ethics report leaks via Internet, revealing names



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Tiahrt



Young



Waters

These various dated file photos shows some of House members exposed in an extraordinary, Internet-era breach of security involving the secretive process by which Congress polices lawmaker ethics. Top row, from left are, Rep. James Moran, D-Va., Rep. John Murtha, D-Pa., Rep. Peter Visclosky, D-Ind., and Rep. Marcy Kaptur, D-Ohio. Bottom row, from left are, Rep. Laura Richardson, D-Calif., Rep. Todd Tiahrt, R-Kan., Rep. C.W. Young, R-Fla., and Rep. Maxine Waters, D-Calif.

Associated Press

LARRY MARGASAK,
Associated Press Writer
WASHINGTON (AP) — Internal investigations into the conduct of more than two dozen members of the U.S. House of Representatives were exposed in an

extraordinary, Internet-era breach involving the secretive process by which Congress polices lawmaker ethics.

Disclosures of the mostly preliminary inquiries by the House Committee on

Standards of Official Conduct — also known as the Ethics committee — and a panel that refers cases to it shook the chamber as lawmakers were immersed in a series of scheduled votes Thursday. The panel announced that

it was investigating two California Democrats — Reps. Maxine Waters and Laura Richardson — even as its embarrassed leaders took pains to explain that several other lawmakers' names should not have been revealed and they may have done nothing wrong.

The committee said it was investigating whether Waters used her influence to help a bank in which her husband owned stock, and whether the couple benefited as a result.

Separately, the panel is looking into whether Richardson failed to disclose required information on her financial disclosure forms and received special treatment from a lender.

Ethics chairwoman Rep. Zoe Lofgren, D-Calif., went to the House floor to announce that a confidential weekly report of the committee from July had leaked out in a case of "cyber-hacking."

A committee statement said that its security was breached through "peer to peer file sharing software" used by

a junior employee who was working from home. The employee was fired.

The fired employee was allowed to work on the document at home but was responsible for keeping it secure, said a House staff member with knowledge of the events, who spoke anonymously because he was not authorized to discuss it. The employee did not realize that the file saved on a hard drive could be downloaded to another computer using the same file sharing software, according to the staffer. He said there is no indication that the individual accessing the document was looking for ethics committee material.

The July report contains a summary of the committee's work at the time, but Lofgren said no inferences should be made about anyone whose name is mentioned.

The committee typically makes a public announcement about its activities only when it begins an investigation of potential rule-breaking, which is conducted by an investigative subcommittee whose members also are made public.

However, the weekly reports include a summary of the committee's work at an earlier stage, when its members and staff scrutinize lawmakers to see whether an investigation is warranted.

The Washington Post reported in its online edition Thursday that the document was disclosed on a publicly accessible computer network and made available to the newspaper by a source familiar with such networks. The Post reported that more than 30 lawmakers and a few staff members were under scrutiny, including nearly half the members of the House Appropriations defense subcommittee.

The previously disclosed inquiry involves lawmakers who steered appropriations to clients of a now-defunct lobbying firm and received campaign contributions from the firm and its clients. □

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Storm dumps snow on Rockies, plains, more forecast

IVAN MORENO

Associated Press Writer

DENVER (AP) — A slow-moving storm showed no signs of letting up in Colorado and the western Plains on Thursday, blanketing areas already buried with as much as 3 feet (nearly a meter) of snow, closing schools and businesses, and delaying flights. Roads across Colorado and Wyoming were snow-packed and icy from the first big winter storm of the season in the West, and the snow's not likely to let up anytime soon. The storm spread a blanket of white from northern Utah to western Nebraska.

"There's definitely some adverse driving conditions right now, and it's expected to continue throughout a good portion of the day," said Bob Wilson, a Colorado Department of Transportation spokesman. Wilson said although some cars were sliding off roads, not many accidents had been reported.

Cheney told FBI he didn't know who outed CIA agent

PETE YOST,

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Vice President Dick Cheney told the FBI that he had no idea who leaked to the news media that Valerie Plame, wife of a Bush administration critic, worked for the CIA. The FBI summary of Cheney's interview from 2004 reflects that the vice president had deep misgivings about Plame's husband, Joseph Wilson, a former U.S. ambassador in Africa who said the administration had twisted prewar intelligence about Iraq.

Cheney's chief of staff, I. Lewis "Scooter" Libby, was convicted of perjury, obstruction and lying to the FBI in the probe of who leaked Plame's identity to the news media. At the end of Libby's trial, prosecutor Patrick Fitzgerald said "there is a cloud over the vice president" in the leaking of Plame's identity.

After Libby's conviction, President George W. Bush commuted Libby's 30-month prison sentence but rejected Cheney's vehement appeals to pardon Libby, which would have canceled his conviction.

The FBI interview summary was released Friday to a watchdog group, Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington, which sued to get the material under the federal Freedom of Information Act.

In the interview, whose participants included Fitzgerald, Cheney told agents that he did not

recall having a conversation with Bush about either Plame or her husband.

The vice president said he probably discussed Wilson with Bush's top political adviser, Karl Rove, but told the FBI he would not have talked to Rove about Wilson's wife.

Cheney's denials that he talked about Plame are among the few things in the lengthy interview with the FBI that Cheney appeared certain about. He repeatedly said he could not recall key events. Among them, he said he did not recall discussing Wilson's wife with Libby before her CIA employment was revealed by conservative columnist Robert Novak in mid-July 2003.

Evidence at Libby's criminal trial showed that Cheney had told Libby about Wilson's wife in mid-June 2003.

According to courtroom testimony, Rove was one of Novak's sources for his column disclosing Plame's CIA identity and Rove and Libby were sources for Time magazine reporter Matt Cooper, who also wrote a story identifying Plame.

Cheney said he was unaware of any discussions Libby may have had with Rove about Wilson or Wilson's wife, and Cheney said Libby did not tell him about any such discussions.

The vice president advised the agents that he had no idea what Libby knew on the days before Plame's CIA identity was publicly revealed. □



Tow trucks assist the Colorado State Patrol to clear stalled vehicles from westbound Interstate 70 on Floyd Hill just west of the Denver metropolitan area on Wednesday, Oct. 28, 2009. A winter storm is forecast to continue in Colorado through the day Wednesday.

Associated Press

In Colorado, parts of U.S. Highway 6 and Interstate I-25 were closed. Wilson said the closures were to prevent traffic congestion going into

Wyoming, where driving conditions are worse than in northern Colorado.

In Wyoming, a 40-mile stretch of Interstate 80 was closed

more inches of snow were expected to fall Thursday, said meteorologist John Griffith with the National Weather Service in Cheyenne.

The storm that began Tuesday already added enough snow to break records for total snowfall in October for Wyoming. It was the biggest October snowmaker in the Denver area since 1997, said Byron Louis, a National Weather Service hydrologist in Boulder, Colorado.

At Denver International Airport, all four runways were expected to open after snow crews worked through the night, said spokesman Chuck Cannon. The airport warned of more delays, saying it would see 12 inches of snow by Thursday afternoon.

Both United Airlines and Frontier Airlines canceled flights.

Many schools in metro Denver remained closed Thursday, but the University of Colorado in Boulder and Colorado State University in Fort Collins, where 17.5 inches fell, decided to reopen, a day after sending students home early. □

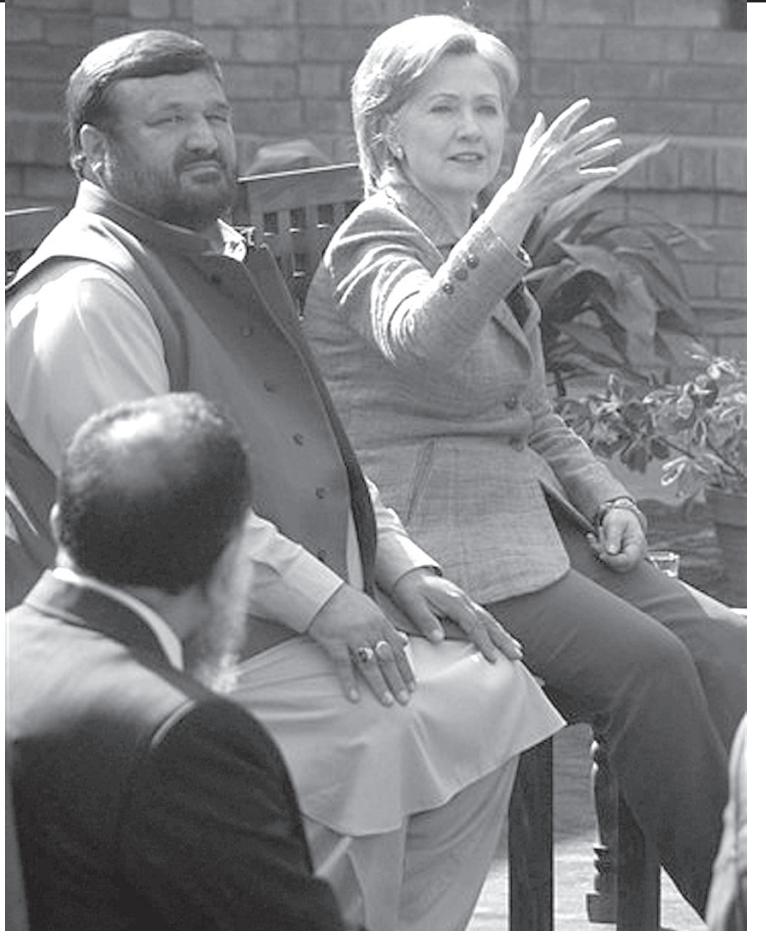
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Pakistanis confront U.S. Secretary of State Clinton over drone attacks

U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton talks with Pakistani tribal people during her meeting them in Islamabad, Pakistan on Friday, Oct. 30, 2009. Clinton came face-to-face Friday with Pakistani anger over U.S. aerial drone attacks in tribal areas along the Afghan border, a strategy that U.S. officials say has succeeded in killing key terrorist leaders.

Associated Press

ROBERT BURNS

AP National Security Writer

ISLAMABAD (AP) — U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton faced sharp rebukes from Pakistani audiences Friday, including one woman who accused the U.S. of conducting “executions without trial” in aerial drone strikes. Slapping back, Clinton questioned Pakistan’s commitment to fighting terrorists.

“Somebody, somewhere in Pakistan must know where these people are,” Clinton said in an exchange almost as blunt as her exasperated comments a day earlier that Pakistani officials lacked the will to target al-Qaida.

Her stormy three-day visit, rocked at the start by a terrorist blast in Peshawar that killed 105 Pakistanis, revealed clear signs of strain between the two nations despite months of public insistence that they were on the same wavelength in the war on terror.

By speaking bluntly about the Pakistanis’ failure to find and eliminate top al-Qaida leaders — eight years after they were run out of Afghanistan — Clinton appeared to be trying to prod the Pakistanis to go beyond their current military campaign against internal militants in South Waziristan. Pakistan’s army recently launched a major offensive in the border area to clear out Pakistani Taliban elements from hideouts there. But two earlier army efforts made little progress there — leaving questions about the military’s resolve to tackle al-Qaida head-on.

Clinton’s tough talk on Pakistan’s apparent inability to

root out al-Qaida also appeared to be aimed at reminding the country’s civilian and military leaders that the assault on Pakistani Taliban elements in South Waziristan would not be finished unless al-Qaida too was targeted. She noted explicitly that the Taliban militants there are “in league with” the terror group that fomented the Sept. 11 attacks. “After South Waziristan is finished, the Pakistanis will have to go on to try to root out other terrorist groups, or we’re going to be back facing the same threats,” she warned.

During the visit and talks with Pakistani leaders, Clinton found herself repeatedly on the defensive from ordinary Pakistanis brimming with resentment toward U.S. foreign policy.

During a live broadcast of an interview before a predominantly female audience of several hundred, Clinton struggled to avoid describing the classified U.S. effort to target terrorists, and still try to explain the efforts of American foreign policy.

“Is it the killing of people in drone attacks?” the woman asked.

Then she asked if Clinton considered both the U.S. missile strikes and militant bombings like the one that killed more than 100 civilians in the city of Peshawar earlier in the week as acts of terrorism.

“No, I do not,” Clinton replied.

Another man said bluntly: “Please forgive me, but I would like to say we’ve been fighting your war.”

But she was also on an offensive of her own, coiled with pent-up frustration about Pakistan’s incremental handling of terrorists.

The sentiment was quickly echoed by other U.S. officials, including on Friday in Washington by White House spokesman Robert Gibbs.

As she sparred with Pakistani citizens and journalists, Clinton faced sharp questions

about the secret U.S. program that uses unmanned aircraft to launch missiles to kill terrorists along the porous, ungoverned border with Afghanistan.

But she refused to go into detail about the classified strikes that have killed both key terror leaders and bystanders, long a source of outrage among Pakistan’s population despite an equally deadly campaign of militant-spawned bombings. Asked repeatedly about the drones, a subject that involves highly classified CIA operations, Clinton said only that “there is a war going on.” She added that the Obama administration is committed to helping Pakistan defeat the insurgents.

Before flying Friday to the United Arab Emirates for consultations with Palestinian leaders on Mideast peace prospects, Clinton appeared to slightly temper her earlier comments that some Pakistani officials knew where al-Qaida’s upper echelon has been hiding and had done little to target them.

“We don’t know where, and I have no information that they know where, but this is a big government. You know, it’s a government on many levels. Somebody, somewhere in Pakistan must know where these people are. And we’d like to know because we view them as really at the core of the terrorist threat that threatens Pakistan, threatens Afghanistan, threatens us, threatens people all over the world,” Clinton said.

A day earlier she had been more explicit in her skepticism, telling a Pakistani journalist in Lahore: “I find it hard to believe that nobody in your government knows where they are and couldn’t get them if they really wanted to. Maybe that’s the case. Maybe they’re not gettable. I don’t know.”

A top Pakistan official insisted Friday that his country is fighting back against militants. “We have decided to fight back,” said Interior Minister Rehman Malik, who joined Clinton at a police training center. □

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PG	FAME	daily: 12:00	5:00 2:30	late show:	
R	THE PRIVATE LIFE OF PIPPA LEE	daily: 7:30	9:45	12:00	
PG	TOY STORY2 3D	daily: 12:00	4:00 2:00	late show:	3D
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PG	THIS IS IT MICHAEL JACKSON	daily: 5:45 matinee: 12:45	8:15 3:15	late show: 11:00	NEW
PG	ASTRO BOY	daily: 12:00	6:45 2:15	late show:	NEW
PG	TOY STORY2 3D	daily: 12:15	4:15 2:15	6:15 late show:	3D
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R	ZOMBIELAND	daily: 8:15	10:15	late show: 12:30	
PG-13	SURROGATES	daily: 9:00	9:00	late show: 11:30	
PG-13	THE STEPFATHER	daily: 12:45	6:00 3:15	8:30 late show: 11:00	
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Haiti's president turns to Cabinet for new PM

JONATHAN M. KATZ

Associated Press Writer

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP) — Haiti's president turned Friday to a member of his Cabinet to replace the prime minister who was abruptly removed by the Senate in a vote that reflects the country's deep political divisions.

Jean-Max Bellerive, the minister of planning and external cooperation, is President Rene Preval's nominee to be Haiti's next premier, Preval said in a statement addressed to parliament.

Bellerive, an economist, has held a variety of government posts over the past decade, including as an official in the administration of President Jean-Bertrand Aristide, who was forced from office in a violent rebellion in 2004. Bellerive, in Preval's government, has played a major role in coordinating and courting investment and

foreign aid for the country. Preval's nomination must be ratified by the Senate.

It was the Senate that voted early Friday to oust Prime Minister Michele Pierre-Louis amid a power struggle that threatens to undermine the campaign to attract foreign investment to the impoverished country.

Pierre-Louis was removed when 18 of 29 senators voted for censure and dissolved the Cabinet.

Most of the votes against the prime minister came from President Rene Preval's own Lespwa movement, which took control of the Senate after winning June elections.

Critics accused Pierre-Louis of failing to do enough to alleviate poverty, though the vote also reflects a struggle among senators for leadership roles as some position themselves for possible runs for president next year.

"She doesn't have social and

economic policies. It's the Inter-American Development Bank and World Bank that are making economic decisions," said Sen. Joseph Lambert.

Pierre-Louis took office in September 2008 as Haiti was being pummeled by four tropical storms and hurricanes that killed nearly 800 people, left tens of thousands homeless and caused \$1 billion in damage.

An educator who headed the Haitian branch of George Soros' Open Society Institute, she filled a post that had been vacant for five months after senators dismissed her predecessor during riots over the high cost of food.

In the past five years, politically tumultuous Haiti has gone through five prime ministers in addition to ousting Aristide.

Pierre-Louis' removal comes as former U.S. President Bill Clinton, a U.N. special envoy to Haiti, has been trying to



Haiti's Senators Youri Latortue, center right, and Jean Baptiste Jean Willy, center left, speak before a Senate session in Port-au-Prince, Thursday, Oct. 29, 2009. Prime Minister Michele Pierre-Louis was facing a challenge Thursday from senators in the president's party who are trying to remove her, a move that could hinder international efforts to increase foreign investment in Haiti.

Associated Press

assure international investors that the country has regained stability.

The prime minister alluded to that campaign in a letter to the Senate announcing she would not attend the debate on her ouster.

"At a time when efforts are

under way for Haiti to join the international community and it has possibilities of investment, national and international, to better the lives of the Haitian population ... my government decides not to participate in this hearing," she wrote. □

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Fraud surrounds women voters in Afghan election



In this Thursday, Aug. 20, 2009 file photo, Afghan women voters line up to cast their ballots at a polling station in Kabul.

Associated Press

HEIDI VOGT,
Associated Press Writer

KABUL (AP) — One man cast 35 votes for female relatives. Others lugged in sacks full of voting cards they said were from women. And in a village of just 250 people, 200 women supposedly voted in three hours.

In Afghanistan's recent presidential election in August, one of the ripest areas for fraud was women's voting. And the same is likely to be true again in the Nov. 7 runoff between President Hamid Karzai and former Foreign Minister Abdullah Abdullah. The stakes are high. The Obama administration, which pushed Karzai to accept the runoff vote, is hoping it will restore legitimacy to a government that has been undermined by blatant ballot-box stuffing and Karzai's long delay in accepting fraud rulings that forced the runoff.

Yet the problems of fraud related to women's voting cannot be changed in a few weeks. There's widespread acceptance of proxy voting by male relatives. Many women are reluctant to vote given threats of violence and polling centers swarming with men. And those who do cast ballots are usually uneducated and therefore more easily manipulated.

It's unclear how large an impact fraud involving women voters had on the results because Afghan election officials have not released the list of women's polling stations. But many observers have said that women's polling stations were more problematic than men's. In August, men showed

up with fistfuls of female voter cards and poll workers allowed them to cast multiple ballots without argument, according to a U.N. report. In some cases, men dragged in sacks full of cards supposedly for female relatives, Afghan monitors said.

Empty women's polling stations also provided reams of blank ballots to unscrupulous local officials.

"It allowed for women's votes to be manipulated. Block voting, proxy voting, or there were just no women at the polling stations and those ballots were used for fraudulent votes," said Theresa Delangis, part of a team working on election issues with the U.N. women's fund.

Afghanistan is no safer now than two months ago and there still aren't enough female poll workers. Election officials say they have plans to recruit more women, but the strategy does not appear any different from the one that failed this summer.

Afghanistan is still a deeply conservative Muslim society where a man might never see the face of his best friend's wife. Yet more than 3,500 of the country's female polling stations were staffed by men because they couldn't find enough women to fill the jobs, according to the Afghan Independent Election Commission.

Faced with male staff, many women just didn't show up to vote. Momina Yari, an election commissioner who has campaigned for better access for women at polling stations, said even if a woman wanted to vote, her family

often wouldn't let her.

In cases where women staffers were available, the women's polling centers were often in the back of a building, meaning female voters had to walk past large groups of men to cast their ballots, Yari said. Election officials say Taliban threats made it hard to attract female poll workers, and there also weren't enough women with the needed skills. The typical Afghan woman is illiterate, a handicap that makes it difficult for them

to dependably staff a polling center, said Sharif Nasry, part of a team of gender specialists working with the election commission. On top of that, women's activists said Afghan officials didn't try hard enough to recruit women. Because of the lack of staffing and insecurity in the south and east, at least 650 women's polling stations failed to open countrywide, according to Afghanistan's main independent monitoring group, the Free and Fair

Elections Foundation of Afghanistan. In central Uruzgan province alone, only six out of 36 women's polling stations opened.

It created a situation in which women were actually slightly less represented in 2009 than in the last presidential vote in 2004, when Afghans had only recently emerged from the Taliban regime that banned women from most jobs and forced them to wear an all-covering burqa whenever leaving the house. □

HONDURA
Continued from Page B1

sleep, but it has been several days since troops have crowded and meowed in the wee hours to keep those inside awake.

Backers hugged Zelaya after hearing the news and one asked him to autograph a white cowboy hat resembling the one the deposed leader always wears. The hat already bore Shannon's signature.

The breakthrough was a major foreign-policy victory for Obama. Speaking to reporters in Islamabad, U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton called it "an historic agreement," saying: "This is a big step forward for the inter-American system."

Zelaya was ousted after ignoring orders from the Supreme Court to abandon a referendum aimed at rewriting the constitution. Opponents said his secret plan was to lift a constitutional ban on presidential re-election; Zelaya denies that.

During his three years in office, Zelaya had alienated Honduras' elite by forming an increasingly strong alliance with Venezuela's socialist president, Hugo Chavez.

The new agreement would create a power-sharing government and bind both sides to recognize the presidential elections, as well as putting the armed forces under the command of electoral officials to ensure that the vote is legitimate.

It also creates a truth commission and rejects amnesty for political crimes. Micheletti called the pact a "significant concession" on his part. □



Honduras' ousted President Manuel Zelaya, left, shakes hands with the Organization of American States' (OAS) Secretary for Political Affairs, Victor Rico after a meeting at the Brazilian embassy in Tegucigalpa, Friday, Oct. 30, 2009. Zelaya told The Associated Press on Friday that a U.S.-brokered pact will restore him to power in about a week.

Associated Press

Neither Zelaya nor interim President Roberto Micheletti is running.

Most polls show lawmaker Porfirio Lobo of the National Party leading Elvin Santos of the Liberal Party to which both Zelaya and Micheletti belong.

"We are willing to be cooperative in Congress with the agreement of the negotiators," Lobo said Friday. "The best decision for Honduras will be taken."

The plan does not include a deadline for congress to act, but Zelaya told The Associated Press that he expects a decision in "more or less a week." Meanwhile,

he said, he will remain at the Brazilian Embassy in Tegucigalpa, where he took refuge after slipping back into the country Sept. 21 from his forced exile.

"I'm not going anywhere," he said Friday. Soldiers still surrounded the embassy and floodlights still interrupted

World's largest cruise ship sails for U.S. port

MATTI HUUHTANEN,
Associated Press Writer

HELSINKI (AP) — It's five times larger than the Titanic, has seven neighborhoods, an ice rink, a golf course and a 750-seat outdoor amphitheater. The world's largest cruise ship is finally finished and Friday it began gliding toward its home port in Florida.

The Oasis of the Seas will meet its first obstacle Saturday when it exits the Baltic Sea and must squeeze under the Great Belt Bridge, which is just 1 foot taller than the ship — even after its telescopic smokestacks are lowered.

To be on the safe side, the ship — which rises about 20 stories high — will speed up so that it sinks deeper into the water when it passes below the span, said Lene Gebauer Thomsen, a spokeswoman for the operator of the Great Belt Bridge.

Once home, the \$1.5 billion floating extravaganza will have more, if less visible, obstacles to duck: a sagging U.S. economy, questions about the consumer appetite for luxury cruises and criticism that such sailing behemoths are damaging to the environment and diminish the experience of traveling.

Travel guide writer Arthur Frommer has railed against Oasis and other mega-ships he calls "floating resorts," suggesting that voyages on such large vessels are "a dumbing down of the cruise experience."

Oasis of the Seas, which is nearly 40 percent larger than the industry's next-biggest ship, was conceived years before the economic downturn caused desperate cruise lines to slash prices to fill vacant berths.

"Obviously we did not want or anticipate she'd be born into the most significant economic downturn since the Depression," Royal Caribbean International President & CEO Adam Goldstein told The Associated



This Oct. 30, 2009 photo released by Royal Caribbean shows Royal Caribbean's Oasis of the Seas departing a ship yard in Finland. The Oasis of the Seas, the largest passenger vessel ever built, is set to be handed over to Royal Caribbean International on Wednesday, Oct. 28, 2009.

Associated Press

Press in an interview earlier this month. "Even in this environment, we're excited about her."

It sets sail as cruise lines clamor to increase capacity, adding newer — and bigger — ships to their fleets.

The Oasis of the Seas has 2,700 cabins and can accommodate 6,300 passengers and 2,100 crew members. Company officials are banking that its novelty will help guarantee its success.

The enormous ship features various "neighborhoods" — parks, squares and arenas with special themes. One of them will be a tropical environment, including palm trees and vines among the total 12,000 plants on board. They will be planted after the ship arrives in Fort Lauderdale.

In the stern, a 750-seat outdoor theater — modeled on an ancient Greek amphitheater — doubles as a swimming pool by day and an ocean front theater by night. The pool has a diving tower with spring boards and two 33-foot high-dive platforms. An indoor theater seats 1,300 guests.

Accommodations include loft cabins, with floor-to-ceiling windows, and 1,600-

square-foot luxury suites with balconies overlooking the sea or promenades.

One of the "neighborhoods," named Central Park, features a square with boutiques, restaurants and bars, including a bar that moves up and down three decks, allowing customers to get on and off at different levels.

The liner also has four swimming pools, volleyball and basketball courts, and a youth zone with theme parks and nurseries for children.

Frommer suggests that such ships should never even leave port: "Who would know the

difference?"

"If the life on ship were a vital one, then you might justify building a ship so large," Frommer told the AP in an e-mail exchange. "But when the activities program consists largely of ziplines, surfing, rock-climbing, a boxing ring, and imitations of Cirque de Soleil, when the lecture program deals with napkin-folding (the subject matter on other humongous ships operated by the same company), then there doesn't seem much appeal to well-read, intellectually curious people."

Paul Motter, editor of Cruisemates.com, has said that other critics have also complained that these huge ships flood ports of call, dumping 5,000 people all at once in an area.

Motter said suites are sold out for most of the trips. Junior suites are mostly sold out and there is availability in inside, ocean view and balcony rooms.

He said ticket prices are still high for the Oasis, running \$1,299 to \$4,829, compared with \$509 to \$1,299 on the company's next most popular ship, Freedom of the Seas.

While environmentalists have said that the ship does not do enough to reduce air pollution and burns more fuel than a land-based resort, engineers at shipbuilder STX Finland said environmental considerations played an important part in planning the vessel. It dumps no sewage into the sea, reuses its waste water and consumes 25 percent less power than similar, but smaller, cruise liners. "I would say this is the most environmentally friendly cruise ship to date," said Mikko Ilus, project engineer at the Turku yard. "It is much more efficient than other similar ships."

The Oasis of the Seas is due to make its U.S. debut on Nov. 20 at its home port, Port Everglades in Florida. □

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SPORTS**Aruba TODAY**

Yankees win 3-1 to tie World Series

RONALD BLUM,
AP Baseball Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Mark Teixeira and Hideki Matsui hit solo homers off familiar foe Pedro Martinez to give the New York Yankees a 3-1 victory over the Philadelphia Phillies and tie the World Series at 1-1 on Thursday.

A night after getting held to a lone unearned run by Cliff Lee, the Yankees bounced back with their bats.

"Every game in the World Series is a must win," Teixeira said. "After yesterday, getting a win today was big."

Pitcher A.J. Burnett did his part with seven impressive innings, and Mariano Rivera got Game 1 star Chase Utley to ground into a double play with two on to end the eighth. After a day off, Game 3 will be at Citizens Bank Park on Saturday.

Continued on Page B12

NHL Roundup

Ovechkin scores twice as Caps beat Thrashers

ATLANTA (AP) — Alex Ovechkin scored his NHL-leading 12th and 13th goals as the Washington Capitals held on to hand the Atlanta Thrashers their fourth straight loss, 4-3 on Thursday. Ovechkin didn't get a chance to go against fellow Russian Ilya Kovalchuk. Atlanta's star sat out his first game since breaking his right foot last weekend.

The Capitals built a 3-0 lead and survived a wild finish. Three goals were scored in the last 2:23, including Zach Bogosian's second of the game for Atlanta just before the buzzer.

Semyon Varlamov stopped Jim Slater on a penalty shot in the first period and bailed out the Capitals when Atlanta dominated the final two periods.

At Edmonton, Alberta, Patrick O'Sullivan beat Jimmy Howard with a wrist shot in the third round of a shootout, and Nikolai Khabibulin stopped Henrik Zetterberg on Detroit's final attempt to give Edmonton the victory.

The Red Wings overcame a 5-1 deficit to force overtime.

Ales Hemsky had two goals and an assist for Edmonton. Linemate Dustin Penner had a goal — his ninth of the season — and three assists, and Shawn Horcoff had a goal and two assists. Jean-Francois Jacques also scored.

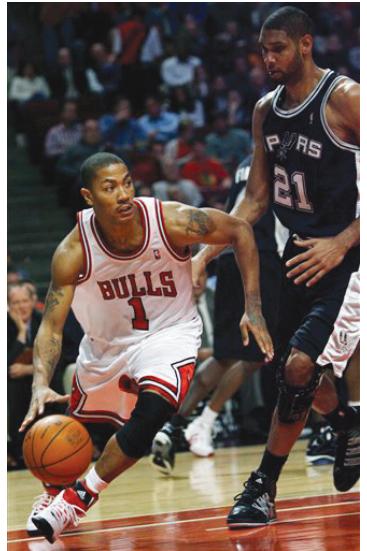
At Tampa, Florida, Steven Stamkos had two power-play goals and an assist, and Todd Fedoruk, Ryan Malone and Alex Tanguay also scored for Tampa Bay.

Tampa Bay's Martin St. Louis played in his 700th NHL game and extended his team-record season-opening points streak to 10 games (11 assists, 14 points) with an assist. Jarkko Ruutu



Philadelphia Phillies' Pedro Martinez points up as he is taken out of the game during the seventh inning of Game 2 of the Major League Baseball World Series against the New York Yankees Thursday, Oct. 29, 2009, in New York.

Associated Press



Chicago Bulls' Derrick Rose, right, blocks a shot by San Antonio Spurs' Richard Jefferson during the first quarter of an NBA basketball game in Chicago, Thursday, Oct. 29, 2009.

Associated Press

NBA Roundup

Bulls beat Spurs 92-85

CHICAGO (AP) — Derrick Rose scored 13 points and had seven assists to lead the balanced Chicago Bulls to an impressive 92-85 season-opening victory over the San Antonio Spurs in the NBA on Thursday. Rose, who missed most of the preseason with an injured ankle, waved and blew a kiss toward the crowd before the opening tip. He then showed some of the explosiveness that carried him to the rookie of the year award last season. He had no trouble penetrating and delivered some dizzying spin moves that drew roars from the crowd, showing no signs of the right ankle pain that had bothered him for the past few weeks. He had plenty of help, and Chicago pulled away in the second half despite Tim Duncan's 28 points and 16 rebounds for the Spurs.

Nuggets 97, Portland 94

At Portland, Oregon, Carmelo Anthony scored 19 of his 41 points in the fourth quarter as Denver took advantage of Portland's trouble at the free-throw line. □



Washington Capitals left wing Alex Ovechkin (8), of Russia, battles for the puck against New York Islanders center Frans Nielsen (51), of Denmark, during the second period of an NHL hockey game, Friday, Oct. 30, 2009, in Washington.

Associated Press

and Alex Kovalev scored for Ottawa.

In other NHL action it was: New Jersey 2, Boston 1; Washington 4, Atlanta 3; Tampa Bay 5, Ottawa 2; Phoenix 2, St. Louis 0; Nashville 2, Chicago 0; Edmonton 6, Detroit 5, SO; and Vancouver 2, Los Angeles 1, SO. □

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NFL Preview

Lions give Rams their best chance for a victory

BARRY WILNER,
AP Football Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — While everyone's focus is on Lambeau Field and the return of Brett Favre, the game taking place one state over is being virtually ignored. The St. Louis Rams-Detroit Lions matchup is noteworthy because it might be St. Louis' only real shot at a victory. Favre facing the Packers in Green Bay will be compelling theater. The winless Rams at the one-win Lions could be theater of the absurd. Detroit became the first team in 26 years to endure a winless NFL season last year, and would like nothing better than to point the Rams in the same direction on Sunday.

And looking at the Rams' remaining schedule — New Orleans, Arizona, Seattle, Chicago, Tennessee, Houston, Arizona and San Francisco — they have a strong chance. While there are opportunities for St. Louis to win in the second half of the season, particularly against struggling Seattle and Tennessee, the Lions will provide the best opportunity.

"We don't talk about streaks," Rams coach Steve Spagnuolo said. "It doesn't matter whether you're 7-0 or 0-7 when Wednesday rolls around, especially Wednesday and it's

time to play another team. That's the only team you're focused on."

The team the Rams are thinking about has lost three straight since ending a 19-game losing string in Week 3 against Washington. Like the Rams, the Lions cleaned house in the offseason, bringing in an accomplished defensive coordinator, Jim Schwartz, as coach. Unlike Spagnuolo, the defensive mastermind behind the New York Giants' championship in 2007, Schwartz has tasted victory in his new job.

Not that it's necessarily an advantage for Detroit, according to linebacker Julian Peterson.

"The teams with no victories are the scariest," Peterson said. The Lions hope to have top draft pick Matthew Stafford back at quarterback, and they certainly could use a boost for an offense that has managed 103 points in achieving a 1-5 win-loss record. Still, that's 43 more points than the Rams have scored playing one more game.

Despite the emotional first return of Favre to the stadium where he starred for 16 years, his Minnesota Vikings and the Packers are playing for high stakes. With a victory, the Vikings take a huge step toward putting the NFC

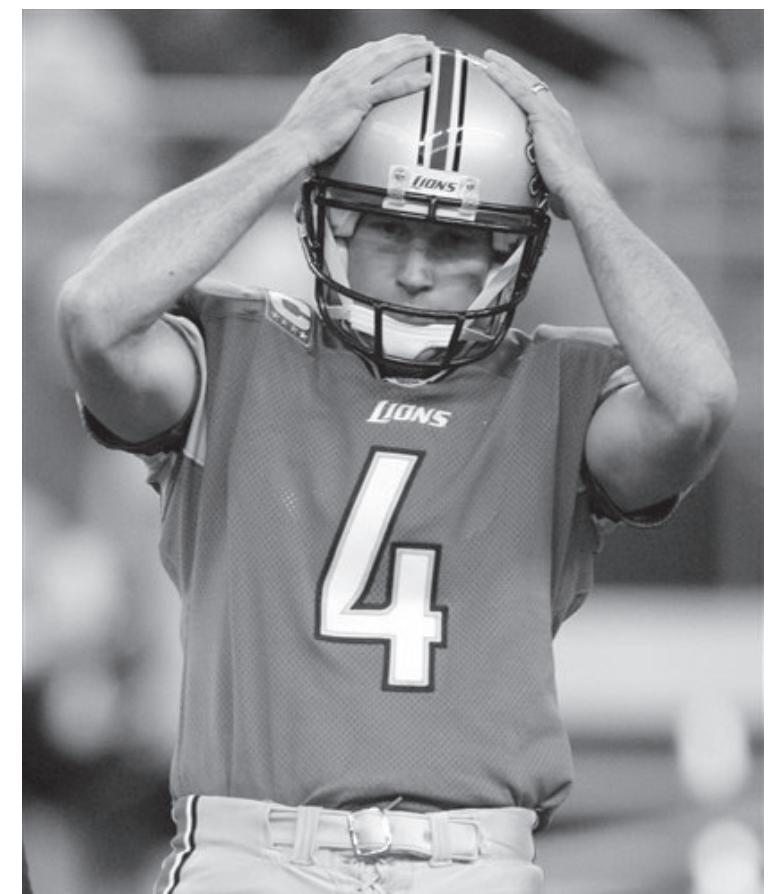
North division out of reach. A Packers win makes the division race tight.

Minnesota's Adrian Peterson leads the NFC in rushing and has scored eight touchdowns. The Vikings lead the league with 24 sacks, and Green Bay's Aaron Rodgers is vulnerable, having been taken down 25 times.

But all that seems to matter at Lambeau Field this weekend is that Brett's back in rival purple, and nobody's sure how Packers fans will react. "What I was a part of there in the past will never be taken away, and I'm very proud of that career, and the fact that it was with Green Bay," Favre said.

Also on Sunday, it's the New York Giants at Philadelphia; Miami at the New York Jets; Seattle at Dallas; Carolina at Arizona; Cleveland at Chicago; Houston at Buffalo; Oakland at San Diego; and Jacksonville at Tennessee.

Atlanta is at New Orleans on Monday in a key NFC



Detroit Lions kicker Jason Hanson reacts after missing a 49-yard field goal against the Pittsburgh Steelers in the third quarter of an NFL football game Sunday, Oct. 11, 2009, in Detroit. The Steelers defeated the Lions 28-20.

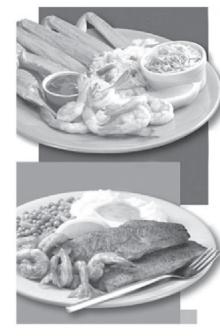
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South matchup. Pittsburgh, Kansas City, Off this week are New Washington and winless England, Cincinnati, Tampa Bay. □

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New York Yankees' Mark Teixeira hits a home run in the fourth inning of Game 2 of the Major League Baseball World Series Thursday, Oct. 29, 2009, in New York. Philadelphia Phillies' Carlos Ruiz is catching. Umpire is Jeff Nelson.

Associated Press

The Phillies had been hoping for more than a split but were content.

"I guess I'll have to be," manager Charlie Manuel said. Light-hitting Matt Stairs put the Phillies on top with an RBI single in the second inning. Burnett then used a biting curveball to keep Philadelphia from advancing another runner past second base against him. "They're the best team we've played all year," New York's Derek Jeter said. "They're champs for a reason, and we need to play well if we're going to beat them."

Teixeira, in an 8-for-44 (.182) postseason slump, tied the score when he led off the fourth with a drive into the Yankees bullpen in right field. Matsui then put New York ahead with two outs in the sixth, reaching down for a curveball below his knees and

driving it a few rows into the seats in right.

"I was able to make a good adjustment and put a good swing on it and fortunately it led to the result," Matsui said through a translator.

Burnett got his first win following three postseason no-decisions for the Yankees, allowing four hits in seven innings and retiring his last eight batters. He struck out nine, — including Ryan Howard three times — and started his first 11 hitters with strikes, nine of them looking. Burnett kept his control, walking two, one of them intentional.

"The fact I was aggressive getting first-pitch strikes was huge," Burnett said.

Rivera got six outs for his 38th postseason save, his 10th in World Series play. After the Phillies put two on base with

WORLD SERIES*Continued from Page B10*

one out in the eighth inning, Utley grounded into an inning-ending double play. He fanned Howard looking starting the ninth — the Philadelphia slugger's first four-strikeout game since July 21 — then struck out Stairs with a runner at second to end it.

"If we went in there 0-2, it would have been a tough road for us," Teixeira said.

Philadelphia, seeking to become the National League's first repeat Series champion since the 1975-76 Reds, lost for just the fifth time in 22 postseason games. The Phillies managed three runs in 14 innings off two starters, CC Sabathia and Burnett.

New York won despite getting nothing from Alex Rodriguez. After carrying the Yankees in the playoffs against the Twins and Angels, he is 0 for 8 in his first Series appearance and struck out three times for the second straight night.

When the Series resumes, Cole Hamels starts Game 3 for the Phillies against Andy Pettitte in an all-lefty matchup. Both teams will be making the trip through New Jersey by train.

Twenty-eight of the 53 teams that won Game 2 to tie the Series went on to win the title — but just one of the last six, the 2002 Angels.

There was another umpiring controversy. With two on and one out in the seventh, first base ump Brian Gorman ruled

Howard reached down, caught Johnny Damon's liner and

turned a double play. A slow-motion replay appeared to show the first baseman gloved the ball on a short hop.

The always entertaining Martinez, pitching four days past his 38th birthday, was nearly as effective as the 32-year-old Burnett, fooling the Yankees with breaking pitches of 70-75 mph. In his first Series start since winning Game 3 for Boston five years ago, he allowed three runs and six hits in six-plus innings, striking out eight and walking two.

There were a few muted chants of "Who's Your Daddy?" but nothing like the booming taunts that serenaded Martinez when he came to New York in his final weeks with Boston in 2004. That was after he famously said, "I just tip my hat and call the Yankees my daddy" following a loss at Fenway Park.

"I knew it was going to be crazy," Burnett said. "I knew he was going to be on his game. I focus on myself, but you can't help but watch his game. It's the funnest I've had on the field."

After singles by Jerry Hairston Jr. and Melky Cabrera put runners at the corners and no outs in the seventh, Martinez came out, pointing at the sky, tapping a fist on his heart and smiling at the crowd.

Jorge Posada pinch hit for Jose Molina and singled up the middle off Park Chan-ho for a 3-1 lead. □

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Honduras firma acuerdo que abre la puerta retorno Zelaya

TEGUCIGALPA (Reuters) - Negociadores del Gobierno de facto y el depuesto presidente Manuel Zelaya firmaron el viernes un acuerdo final que allana el camino para la vuelta al poder del mandatario, poniendo fin a una crisis que mantuvo dividido y en tensión al empobrecido país centroamericano.

Las comisiones negociadoras presentaron el acuerdo en el Congreso, donde unos 500 partidarios de Zelaya celebraban envueltos en camisetas y banderas rojas ante la mirada de la policía antimotines.

Bajo presiones de Estados Unidos -el mayor socio comercial de Honduras-, los bandos rivales llegaron a una salida para resolver la peor crisis política en Centroamérica en dos décadas, desatada tras el golpe de Estado del 28 de junio a manos de militares que derrocó a Zelaya.

El pacto, una victoria diplomática para la administración de Barack Obama, era necesario para que la comunidad internacional reconozca los comicios presidenciales del 29 de noviembre.

Con este acuerdo, el Congreso será el que decida en los próximos días sobre la restitución de Zelaya. Y la Corte Suprema, que había ordenado a los militares derrocar a Zelaya bajo supuestos cargos de violar la Constitución, sólo entregará una opinión.

“Hemos dado el primer paso”, dijo a la cadena CNN Zelaya, quien desde hace meses intenta volver al poder con el apoyo de la comunidad internacional y se encuentra refugiado desde fines de septiembre en la embajada de Brasil.

De acuerdo con el enviado de la Organización de Estados Americanos (OEA), Víctor Rico, ya había un cronograma



Colaboradores saludan al depuesto presidente de Honduras Manuel Zelaya tras su reunión con el secretario adjunto para asuntos del Hemisferio Occidental de Washington, Thomas Shannon, en Tegucigalpa, 30 oct 2009. REUTERS/Edgard Garrido

que establece que la próxima semana debe estar en funciones un nuevo gabinete de unidad nacional.

Las presiones de Washington,

representado por una misión encabezada por el secretario adjunto para asuntos del Hemisferio Occidental, Thomas Shannon, llevaron al

Gobierno de facto encabezado por el empresario Roberto Micheletti a ceder en su rechazo a un regreso de Zelaya. □

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Magpadala papuntang Pilipinas sa:

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OUR OTHER LOCATIONS ARE:

Port of Call
L.G. Smith Blvd 17

Kini Kini Building
Kerkstraat 2-B

Santa Cruz
Santa Cruz 52

San Nicolas
Caya Principal

TEL:
588-7919



Halloween

OCTOBER 31 mambo jambo

PERFORMANCES:

SPECIAL GUEST DJ at 11pm
spinning the best of Latin Music

DJ Diablo

Scary Drink Specials
until midnight

Best Costume prizes
Entrance afl.10,-
Ladies FREE entrance before 11.30pm



Member of Aruba Wine & Dine



www.mambojamboaruba.com - Royal Plaza, Downtown - t: 583 3632